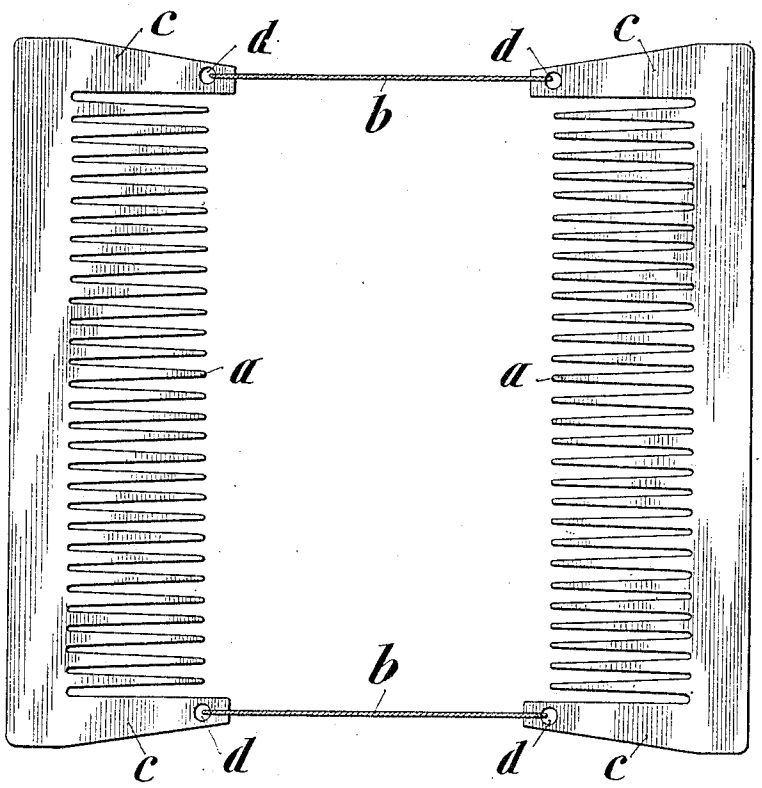
No. 852,273. PATENTED APR. 30, 1907.

M. HESS.

ELASTIC COMB.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 10, 1906.



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ELASTIC COMB.

No. 852,273. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented April 30, 1907.

Application filed December 10, 1906. Serial No. 347,191.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MAX HESS, engineer, a subject of the German Emperor, residing at Ohmstrasse 14, Munich, Germany, have invented certain new and useful improvements relating to Improvements in Elastic Combs, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The falling of hair at the upper part of the head, which generally leads to baldness, is caused by the tensile strains taking place in the upper surface of the scalp when wearing an unhealthy head covering, because at that part, the hair root bulbs are also tensioned to such an extent that they tear.

Now this invention has for its object to counteract the said tensile strains in such a manner that at least the scalp of the upper scull cap is loosened so that the existing uninjured hair root bulbs are protected against being torn and those which are already damaged are capable of contraction.

The present elastic comb chiefly differs from the hair supports hitherto in use by its novel peculiar arrangement of the elastic uniting members. These are attached to the points of very strong teeth. The consequence of this peculiar arrangement is that neither a tilting nor turning of the combs takes place after they have been inserted in the hair, but that the combs, which conform with the shape of the head, always maintain a constant position and that the points of the comb teeth cannot press against the scalp.

Furthermore, the elastic comb as hair support has also the novel advantage that its comb teeth are always situated in the same direction in which the hair has been arranged when dressing the same, while according to similar hair supports hitherto in use, the comb teeth must be inserted transversely to the direction of the hair or in an opposite direction thereto when they are employed for fastening the back-hair when dressing ladies' hair. Hence, it is possible with this elastic comb to fasten the whole of the back-hair under the comb, while this was not possible with any of the hair supports hitherto in use and the simple back-hair combs are insufficient for other reasons; moreover, the hair-dress was always disordered by the insertion and wearing of the combs hitherto in use.

The most important parts of the present elastic comb are clearly represented in the accompanying drawing.

The elastic comb is formed by two or more combs *a*, which are articulated by elastic connecting members *b* such as elastics or the like. The elastic uniting members *b* are attached to the front ends of very strong teeth *c;* the connection between the elastic parts *b* and the teeth *c* is established by holes *d*, wherein the parts *b* are secured. These holes *d* may also be replaced by hooks or similar devices located at the front ends of the teeth *c*.

The elastic comb is used in such a manner that one comb *a* is inserted in the hair with the left hand in the known manner and the other comb is somewhat raised with the right hand; this second comb is then pulled to the right over the head until the desired tension of the elastic members is attained and the first comb is held in position with the left hand, whereupon the second comb is also inserted in the hair at the opposite side of the head.

The elastic comb affords other practical advantages in addition to those already mentioned. Its elastic connecting members keep the long hairs of ladies in order, so that they cannot become disheveled by the wind and also keep the hair-dress in proper order when no hat is worn. These elastic connecting means may also be formed of a flexible net or transverse clasps may be provided in the intermediate space for keeping all the hair between the combs; the elastic comb thus forms a perfect back-hair comb for keeping in proper order especially the hairs of ladies which are of moderate and short length. Moreover by the insertion of metal ornaments or precious stones the elastic comb forms a very attractive ornament for the hair, the value of which is increased as compared with the ornament for the hair hitherto employed in that the combs can never be lost owing to their elastic connection.

The elastic comb may be worn concealed beneath any head covering for protecting the hair roots.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by patent is:

In a device of the class described, a pair of combs having a plurality of teeth, the end teeth of each comb being of increased size with respect to the remaining teeth thereof

and extending a distance beyond the latter, said end teeth provided with an opening in the extended free end of the same, and elastic members, each of the same having their ends connected in the openings at each end of the respective combs for flexibly connecting the said combs together.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MAX HESS.

Witnesses:
ABRAHAM SCHLESINGER,
MATHILDE K. HELD.